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TUBERCULOSIS—AN IMPORTANT STATE PROBLEM.

Gov. Craig, of North Carolina, in his message, read before the general assembly on January 7, showed his appreciation of how serious a State problem is the control of tuberculosis. In the following extract from his message, the italics are ours:

"The problem of dealing with tuberculosis is most serious. In North Carolina it has been ascertained that 18,000 people are the victims of this disease. Many may have it of whom we do not know. It is an ever-present plague that stalks abroad at noonday, and one-seventh of all the deaths in the State are from this dreaded disease. The State sanatorium was established in response to the demand that something must be done for the afflicted, and to stop the ravages of the plague. In my opinion this institution, with its present scope and efficiency, is utterly incapable of dealing effectively with the situation. As an institution for the purpose of educating people to care for themselves and disseminating knowledge of the disease, it can not be as effective as could a bureau established for the purpose of sending literature to every person in the State known to be afflicted. Such literature could present the situation more intelligently to the people and with more efficacy than could be done by a few patients who are fortunate enough to secure admission to the small establishment at Sanatorium. There are now about 90 patients in this institution. It is most humanely and most ably managed. Yet it is altogether inadequate to deal with this stupendous proposition that so vitally affects the people. It has done good in individual instances, but there are thousands in the State who can not gain admittance, and who will desire admittance when its efficiency is recognized. This institution can never care for those entitled to admission. On the present plan, the whole revenue of the State could not meet the demand. *It is one of the highest obligations of the State to deal with this disease, to do all possible to prevent it, and to cure those who have it.* I hope that this general assembly can work out a practical method that will be effective."